

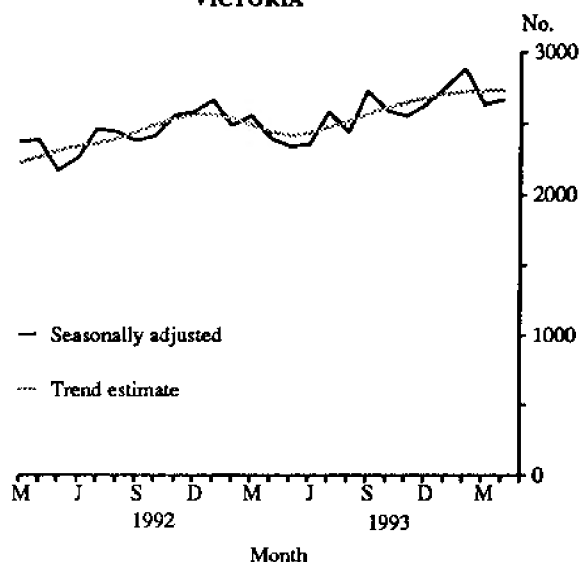
CATALOGUE NUMBER 1307.2

7 JUNE 1994

ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA, MAY 1994

MAIN FEATURES

**NUMBER OF NEW DWELLING UNITS APPROVED,
VICTORIA**

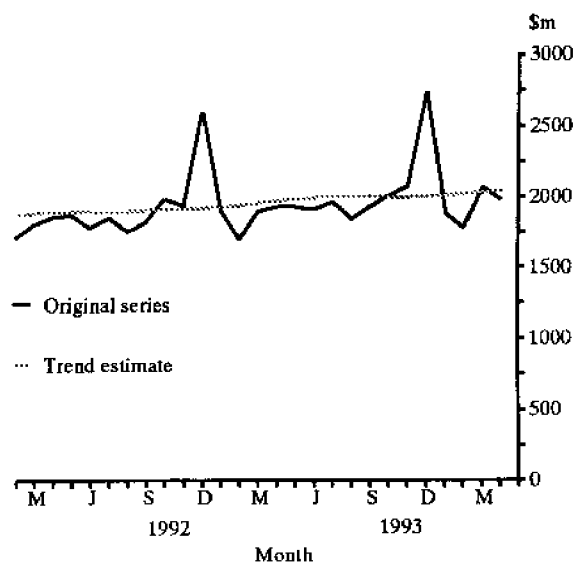


New dwelling units approved

Trend estimates of the number of dwelling units approved in Victoria in April 1994 showed a 0.3 per cent increase over March 1994 and a 12.1 per cent increase compared with April 1993.

After twenty consecutive monthly increases (peaking in January 1993), the trend estimate decreased over the four months to May 1993 before increasing steadily again to April 1994.

**TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS,
VICTORIA**



Retail trade

Trend estimates (at current prices) for Victorian retail trade turnover increased by 0.6 per cent in April 1994 over March 1994 and by 0.8 per cent compared with April 1993.

The increase in the trend estimate has remained constant at 0.6 per cent for February, March and April 1994.

Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months data become available.

INQUIRIES

for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Tony Ward or Dinny Jaconis on Melbourne (03) 615 7000; or any ABS State office.

for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services Melbourne (03) 615 7000; or any ABS State office.

TABLE 1. VICTORIA IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA (a)

Indicator		Reference period								Victoria as a percentage of
			NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	Aust. (b)	Australia
Employed persons	'000	Apr 94	2,630.5	1,960.4	1,403.5	636.4	787.0	194.0	7,835.5	25.0
*Unemployment rate										
- trend series	per cent	Apr 94	9.1	11.4	9.7	10.7	8.3	11.7	10.2	..
Average weekly total earnings										
- all employees (c)	\$	Feb qr 94	543.80	533.90	502.90	512.80	506.40	506.70	624.30	..
Consumer price index, all groups (c)	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	109.1	111.2	110.8	113.6	108.6	111.9	110.4	..
*New dwelling units approved	no.	Apr 94	3,808	2,422	4,021	847	2,094	279	13,856	17.5
Value of all buildings approved	\$m	Apr 94	700.3	444.4	403.4	108.6	220.9	35.0	2,013.4	22.1
Engineering construction										
- commenced, total	\$m	Dec 93	819.2	456.9	604.7	176.8	307.3	35.3	2,518.1	18.1
- yet to be done, total	\$m	Dec 93	1,677.6	878.4	991.6	174.8	434.9	80.6	4,348.1	20.2
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m	Mar 94	1,895.2	1,036.2	1,077.7	405.3	703.7	85.4	5,384.7	19.2
Retail turnover - trend estimates	\$m	Apr 94	3,000.4	2,041.7	1,529.1	647.3	874.3	212.6	8,587.1	23.8
New motor vehicle registrations										
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	15,876	11,477	7,774	3,221	5,003	900.0	45,755	23.5
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities	\$'000	Dec qr 93	243,561	110,502	203,370	38,096	57,593	18,661	709,542	15.6
Exports (excluding re-exports)	\$m	Mar 94	1,284.8	1,068.0	854.3	364.9	1,438.8	136.3	5,331.2	20.0
Imports	\$m	Mar 94	2,588.8	1,890.0	647.5	251.5	433.5	24.6	5,855.0	32.3
*Industrial disputes (12 months ended Feb 94)										
- working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Feb 94	98	165	131	49	55	29	110	..
Electricity production	million kWh	Jan 94	4,710	2,740	2,753	906.0	1,364	698	13,171	20.8
*Actual private new capital expenditure										
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,940	1,846	823	304	1,710	75	6,759	27.3

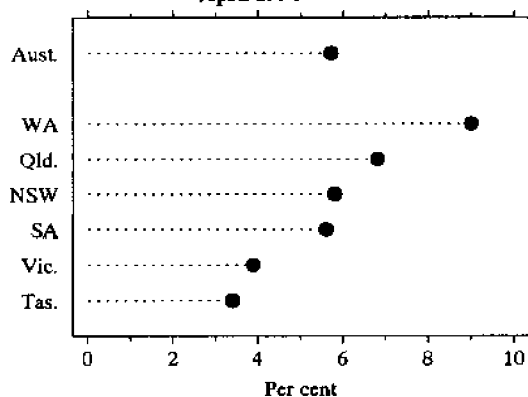
CHANGE OVER SAME PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR (PER CENT)

*Employed persons	'000	Apr 94	4.3	2.1	3.5	0.9	4.6	2.4	3.1	..
Unemployment rate										
- trend series	per cent	Apr 94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Average weekly total earnings										
- all employees (c)	\$	Feb qr 94	0.2	2.5	3.8	7.4	-0.9	3.4	3.7	..
Consumer price index, all groups (c)	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.6	1.4	..
New dwelling units approved	no.	Apr 94	-0.5	5.3	-8.1	-15.3	19.2	-18.9	-2.1	..
Value of all buildings approved	\$m	Apr 94	2.0	41.6	-9.2	-8.1	-17.6	-5.1	2.8	..
Engineering construction										
- commenced, total	\$m	Dec 93	12.7	-11.6	21.6	0.3	-21.8	-19.8	3.6	..
- yet to be done, total	\$m	Dec 93	-5.3	-0.5	0.6	-14.6	-12.9	-45.6	-5.3	..
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m	Mar 94	34.2	28.2	39.1	58.6	56.0	41.4	37.8	..
*Retail turnover - trend estimates	\$m	Apr 94	5.8	3.7	6.8	5.6	9.0	3.4	5.7	..
New motor vehicle registrations										
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	-1.2	14.4	-12.4	5.9	10.3	-13.1	1.7	..
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities	\$'000	Dec qr 93	9.4	3.8	15.2	5.6	10.8	9.4	10.0	..
Exports (excluding re-exports)	\$m	Mar 94	13.4	14.8	-6.3	5.7	6.9	22.7	9.8	..
Imports	\$m	Mar 94	9.9	12.9	22.8	-4.7	-37.2	7.0	5.2	..
Industrial disputes (12 months ended Feb 94)										
- working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Feb 94	10.1	-55.5	72.4	75.0	-38.9	-89.6	-30.8	..
Electricity production	million kWh	Jan 94	-6.0	-8.9	7.7	22.8	3.6	6.4	-0.9	..
Actual private new capital expenditure										
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	-19.5	30.3	-20.4	-27.3	26.8	-39.5	-1.5	..

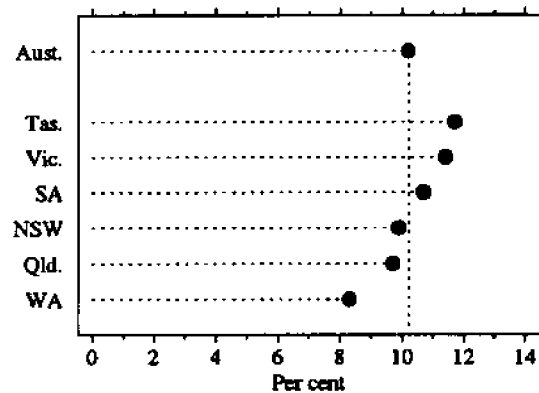
(a) All figures are original unless otherwise stated. (b) The Australian total includes figures for NT and the ACT (c) Available only for the middle month of the quarter. * An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

VICTORIA IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA

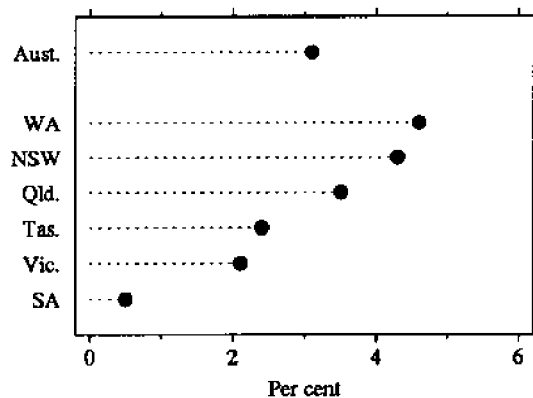
RETAIL TURNOVER
Trend estimates
Change over same period previous year
April 1994



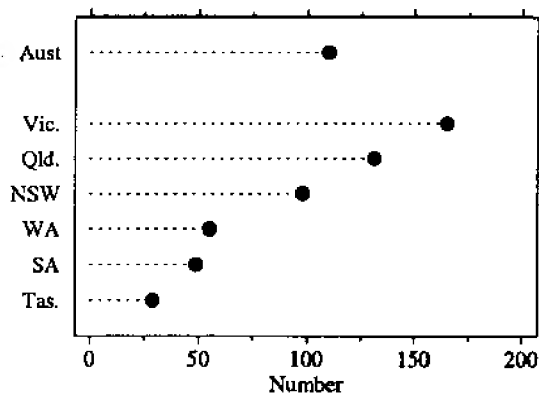
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
Trend series
April 1994



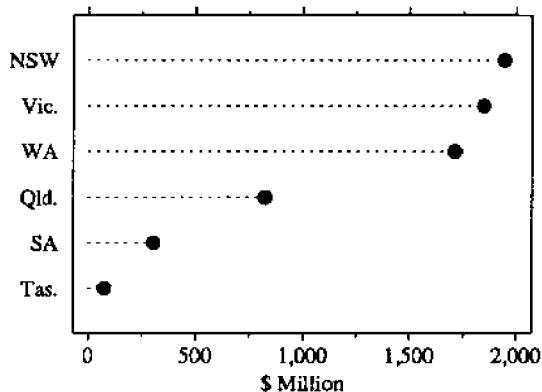
EMPLOYED PERSONS
Change over same period previous year
April 1994



INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES
Working days lost per '000 employees
For the twelve months ended February 1994



PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
Seasonally adjusted
December 1993



NEW DWELLING UNITS APPROVED
April 1994

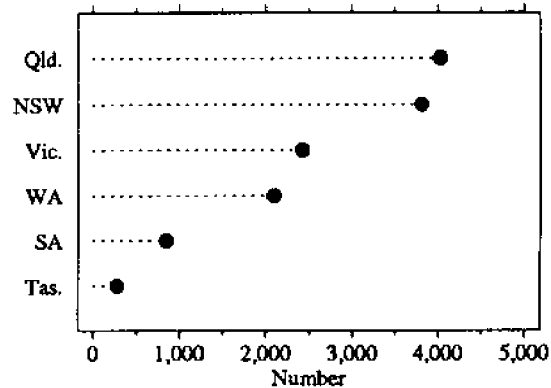


TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA

TABLE 7. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA										
			Victoria				Australia			
			Figures		% Change		Figures	% Change		
					Over same				Victoria	
			Reference	Latest	Preceding	preceding	Latest	Over	as a	Source
Indicator		period	period	period	period	previous	period	preceding	% of	index (a)
						year		period	Australia	
Population -										
Estimated resident population	'000	Sep 93	4,463.7	4,462.1	0.0	0.3	17,712.7	0.3	25.2	1
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000	Apr 94	3,521.9	4,729.2	-25.5	-0.3	13,902.2	0.1	25.3	2
Labour force -										
Labour force										
- original series	'000	Apr 94	2,207.6	2,228.1	-0.9	0.7	8,718.7	-0.8	25.3	2
- seasonally adjusted	'000	Apr 94	2,213.6	2,218.9	-0.2	1.7	8,707.7	-0.2	25.4	2
- trend estimate	'000	Apr 94	2,206.8	2,204.4	0.1	1.1	8,723.3	0.0	25.3	2
Participation rate- seasonally adjusted	per cent	Apr 94	62.9	63.0	..	..	62.6	..	..	2
*Unemployment rate										
- original series	per cent	Apr 94	11.2	12.2	..	..	10.1	..	..	2
- seasonally adjusted	per cent	Apr 94	11.2	11.7	..	..	10.1	..	..	2
- trend estimate	per cent	Apr 94	11.4	11.5	..	..	10.2	..	..	2
Employed persons by industry (e)										
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc (b)	'000	Feb qr 94	100.0	103.6	-3.5	0.5	485.5	-6.3	20.6	13, 14
Manufacturing	'000	Feb qr 94	340.2	346.6	-1.8	-2.3	1110.6	-1.0	30.6	13, 14
Construction	'000	Feb qr 94	119.1	118.8	0.3	-2.2	557.9	-0.1	21.3	13, 14
Wholesale and retail	'000	Feb qr 94	409.5	431.6	-5.1	-0.1	1624.4	-1.2	25.2	13, 14
Transport and storage	'000	Feb qr 94	94.6	86.3	9.6	7.6	381.1	2.1	24.8	13, 14
Finance, property and business services	'000	Feb qr 94	239.0	227.6	5.0	9.7	914.3	3.7	26.1	13, 14
Community services (c)	'000	Feb qr 94	345.2	357.7	-3.5	0.4	1453.1	-3.2	23.8	13, 14
Recreational, personal and other services	'000	Feb qr 94	137.9	145.1	-5.0	-2.8	638.7	-0.2	21.6	13, 14
Other industries (d)	'000	Feb qr 94	140.9	150.3	-6.3	-4.5	586.5	-1.1	24.0	13, 14
Total all industries	'000	Feb qr 94	1,926.4	1,967.6	-2.1	0.4	7,752.1	-1.0	24.9	13, 14
Job vacancies (e) - original series	'000	Feb 94	11.3	9.9	14.1	54.8	45.9	20.2	24.6	3
Overtime (e)										
Average weekly hours per employee	hours	Feb 94	1.31	1.46	-10.3	15.9	1.22	-6.2	..	3
Employees working overtime	per cent	Feb 94	17.23	17.45	-1.3	11.4	16.80	-2.1	..	3
Average weekly employee earnings (e)										
Full-time adult- total	\$	Feb qr 94	638.20	638.20	0.0	1.6	648.90	1.0	..	4
All employees - total	\$	Feb qr 94	533.90	527.00	1.3	2.5	624.30	1.4	..	
Award rates of pay										
Full-time adult employees	June 85=100	Mar 94	142.2	142.2	0.0	0.7	141.2	0.2	..	5
Industrial disputes (12 months ended Feb 94)										
Working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Feb 94	165	170	-2.9	-55.5	110	1.9	..	6
*Consumer price index (e)										
All groups	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	111.2	110.8	0.4	1.6	110.4	0.4	..	7
*Retail trade establishments										
Value of turnover										
- original series	\$m	Apr 94	1,977.3	2,070.7	-4.5	2.5	8,156.9	-5.3	24.2	8
- trend estimate	\$m	Apr 94	2,041.7	2,030.5	0.6	3.7	8,587.1	0.3	23.8	8
- seasonally adjusted (1989-90 prices)	\$m	Mar qr 94	5,440.8	5,372.9	1.3	2.6	22,886.6	1.8	23.8	8
*Overseas trade -										
Imports	\$m	Mar 94	1,890.0	1,501.9	25.8	12.9	5,855.0	32.9	32.3	9
Exports (exclude re-exports)	\$m	Mar 94	1068.0	940.5	13.6	14.8	5,331.2	15.5	20.0	10
Tourism -										
Caravan parks - takings	\$'000	Dec qr 93	19,096	15,301	24.8	5.1	108,504	4.0	17.6	23
Licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities										
- Takings	\$'000	Dec qr 93	110,502	100,636	9.8	3.8	709,542	5.6	15.6	23
- Room occupancy rate	per cent	Dec qr 93	47.6	43.2	..	..	55.5	..	..	23

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)

Indicator		Reference period	Victoria				Australia		Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)
			Figures		% Change		Figures	% Change		
			Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year	Latest period	Over preceding period		
*New motor vehicle registrations -										
New motor vehicle registrations										
- original series	no.	Mar 94	12,713	10,700	18.8	14.2	52,687	14.7	24.1	11
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	11,477	11,449	0.2	14.4	45,755	-9.4	25.1	11
- trend estimate	no.	Mar 94	11,622	11,435	1.6	12.9	48,713	1.2	23.9	11
Cars and station wagons										
- original series	no.	Mar 94	10,861	9,289	16.9	12.6	43,695	12.4	24.9	11, 12
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	9,785	9,919	-1.4	12.4	37,921	-11.3	25.8	11, 12
Other motor vehicles (excludes motor cycles)										
- original series	no.	Mar 94	1,852	1,411	31.3	24.6	8,992	26.9	20.6	11, 12
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	1,692	1,530	10.6	27.4	7,835	1.1	21.6	11, 12
Manufacturing -										
Actual private new capital expenditure										
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	738	618	19.4	36.7	1,987	11.2	37.1	15, 16
Production -										
Whole milk	million litres	Jan 94	538	587	-8.3	15.5	819	-7.0	65.7	17, 18
Butter	tonnes	Dec 93	15,679	16,188	-3.1	2.8	17,925	-2.9	87.5	19
Cheese (incl. cheddar and non-cheddar)	tonnes	Dec 93	14,486	14,789	-2.0	7.0	24,296	-2.9	59.6	19
Yarns										
- Cotton	tonnes	Feb 94	1,363	608	124.2	35.6	2,549	61.0	53.5	17, 18
- Woollen	tonnes	Jan 94	931	1,165	-20.1	41.5	1,113	-21.7	83.6	17, 18
Woven fabric										
- Cotton	'000 sq m	Feb 94	1,777	577	208.0	10.1	4,180	158.2	42.5	17, 18
- Woollen (includes worsted wool)	'000 sq m	Feb 94	428	226	89.4	0.2	725	96.5	59.0	17, 18
- Man-made fibres	'000 sq m	Feb 94	6,441	3,195	101.6	3.4	15,986	62.8	40.3	17, 18
Textile floor coverings	'000 sq m	Feb 94	3,219	2,146	50.0	17.9	4,149	65.1	77.6	17, 18
Clay bricks	million	Feb 94	24	11	118.2	0.0	150	53.1	16.0	17, 18
Ready mixed concrete	'000 cu m	Feb 94	235	181	29.8	0.4	1,202	23.7	19.6	20
Paints and other surface coatings										
- Architectural and decorative paints	'000 litres	Nov 93	1,675	1,882	-11.0	8.1	10,082	-4.8	16.6	21
Electricity - production	million kWh	Jan 94	2,740	3,224	-15.0	-8.9	13,171	-2.1	20.8	22
Gas - available for issue through mains	million Mj	Feb 94	11,230	8,456	32.8	7.8	40,478	1.3	27.7	22
*Actual private new capital expenditure -										
Building and structures - original series										
Equipment, plant and machinery	\$m	Dec qr 1993	448	396	13.1	17.3	2,234	26.6	20.1	15
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,511	1,298	16.4	34.3	5,043	9.7	30.0	15
Total new capital expenditure										
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,960	1,695	15.6	30.1	7,277	14.4	26.9	15
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,846	1,675	10.2	30.3	6,759	4.1	27.3	15
*Housing finance for owner occupation -										
Secured loans to individuals by type of lender										
All Banks										
- number of dwelling units financed	no.	Mar 94	12,696	11,168	13.7	32.5	54,233	18.3	23.4	24
- value of loans secured	\$m	Mar 94	1014.4	857.9	18.2	31.8	4,993.1	21.7	20.3	24
Total number of dwelling units financed	no.	Mar 94	13,023	11,779	10.6	29.0	58,803	17.6	22.1	24
Total value of loans secured (f)	\$m	Mar 94	1036.2	905.6	14.4	28.2	5,384.7	20.6	19.2	24
Loan purpose (g)										
- Established dwellings	\$m	Mar 94	781.0	676.5	15.4	25.3	3,932.1	20.7	19.9	24
- Construction of dwellings	\$m	Mar 94	147.0	133.1	10.4	10.9	863.9	21.3	17.0	24
- Newly erected dwellings	\$m	Mar 94	39.3	37.2	5.6	62.4	402.1	72.9	9.8	24
Finance -										
Personal finance commitments - total	\$m	Mar 94	552.7	435.9	26.8	40.2	2,492.1	18.6	22.2	30
Commercial finance commitments - total	\$m	Mar 94	2,553.0	1,417.5	80.1	44.8	9,497.0	51.3	26.9	31
Lease finance commitments - total	\$m	Mar 94	112.4	91.3	23.1	37.1	543.0	33.7	20.7	32

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)

Indicator	Reference period	Victoria					Australia		Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)
		Figures		% Change		Figures	% Change			
		Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year	Latest period	Over preceding period			
Building Approvals -										
*New residential dwelling units										
- original series	no.	Apr 94	2,422	2,905	-16.6	5.3	13,856	-16.1	17.5	25, 26
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Apr 94	2,667	2,636	1.2	11.4	15,297	2.5	17.4	25, 26
- trend estimate	no.	Apr 94	2,733	2,726	0.3	12.1	15,264	-0.2	17.9	25, 26
Value of non-residential buildings										
- original series	\$m	Apr 94	178.9	165.3	8.2	132.0	642.0	7.6	27.9	26.0
Value of all buildings (f)										
- original series	\$m	Apr 94	444.4	476.8	-6.8	41.6	2013.4	-11.0	22.1	26.0
Building commencements -										
New residential dwelling units, monthly	no.	Jan 94	2185.0	2,498	-12.5	5.8		n.a.	..	27.0
New residential dwelling units, quarterly	no.	Dec qr 1993	8308.0	7,487	11.0	12.3	44469.0	-3.2	18.7	28.0
Building Activity -										
Value of total building activity										
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,405.8	1,269.5	10.7	20.6	6,573.2	4.3	21.4	28
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,332.0	1,286.7	3.5	-0.4	6,709.5	3.7	19.9	28
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,364.4	1,273.2	7.2	-2.7	7,944.6	-0.3	17.2	28
Engineering construction -										
Value of work by private sector										
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 1993	226.8	215.9	5.0	-3.9	1,477.4	-2.1	15.4	29
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	274.5	295.3	-7.0	31.7	1,697.9	0.1	16.2	29
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	577.0	623.5	-7.5	1.4	2,444.8	-5.2	23.6	29
Value of work by public sector										
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 1993	230.1	273.2	-15.8	-16.0	1,040.7	-47.6	22.1	29
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	230.7	198.6	16.2	-21.0	1,303.7	11.6	17.7	29
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	301.4	302.9	-0.5	2.3	1,903.3	-12.6	15.8	29

(a) For more information on these series, refer to the publications listed in the source index below. (b) Includes hunting and mining. (c) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc., welfare and religious institutions, and other community groups. (d) Comprises electricity, gas and water, communications, public administration and defence. (e) Available only for the middle month of the quarter. (f) Includes, alterations and additions to residential buildings.

(g) Excludes, alterations and additions to residential buildings.

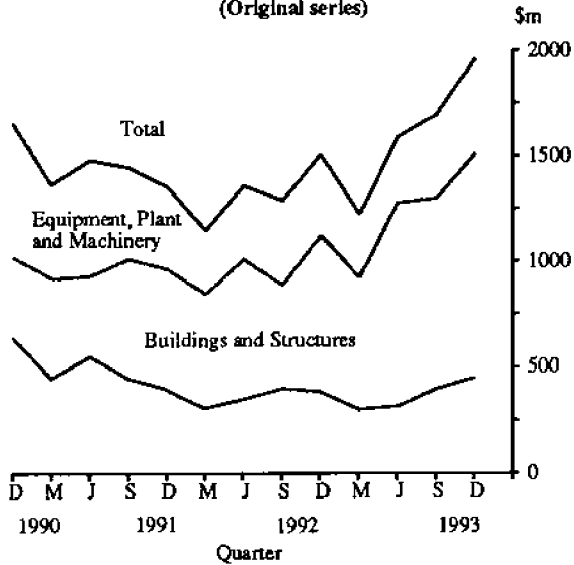
* An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

SOURCE INDEX

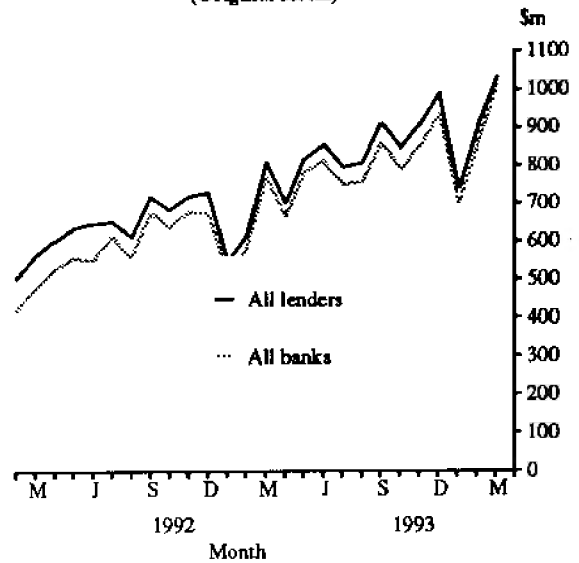
1. Australian Demographic Statistics, (3101.0) \$12.20
2. The Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary, (6202.0) \$10.70
3. Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia, (6354.0) \$12.70
4. Average Weekly Earnings, States & Australia, (6302.0) \$12.70
5. Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia, (6312.0) \$12.70
6. Industrial Disputes, Australia, (6321.0) \$10.70
7. Consumer Price Index, (6401.0) \$11.70
8. Retail Trade Australia, (8501.0) \$10.70
9. Imports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables, (5433.0) \$9.70
10. Exports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables, (5432.0) \$9.70
11. Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia, (9303.0) \$10.70
12. Motor Vehicle Registrations, Victoria, (9303.2) \$10.70
13. The Labour Force, Victoria, (6202.2) \$16.30
14. The Labour Force, Australia, (6203.0) \$16.30
15. State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure, (5646.0) \$10.70
16. Private New Capital Expenditure, Australia, (5626.0) \$10.70
17. Monthly Summary of Statistics, Victoria, (1303.2) \$10.70
18. Monthly Summary of Statistics, Australia, (1304.0) \$20.40
19. Prod. of Food, Drink and Tobacco, Australia, (8359.0) \$10.70
20. Prod. of Building Materials & Fittings, Australia, (8361.0) \$9.00
21. Prod. of Chemicals & By-products, Australia, (8362.0) \$9.00
22. Prod. of Energy Products, Australia, (8368.0) \$7.00
23. Tourist Accommodation, Australia, (8635.0) \$20.00
24. Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia, (5609.0) \$10.70
25. Building Approvals, Victoria, (8731.2) \$10.70
26. Building Approvals, Australia, (8731.0) \$13.30
27. Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Victoria, (8741.2) \$10.70
28. Building Activity, Australia, (8752.0) \$14.30
29. Engineering Construction, Australia, (8762.0) \$10.70
30. Personal Finance, Australia, (5642.0) Tables 1E and 3E PC-Ausstats
31. Commercial Finance, Australia, (5643.0) Tables 1E and 3E PC-Ausstats
32. Lease Finance, Australia, (5644.0) Tables 1E and 3E PC-Ausstats

ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA

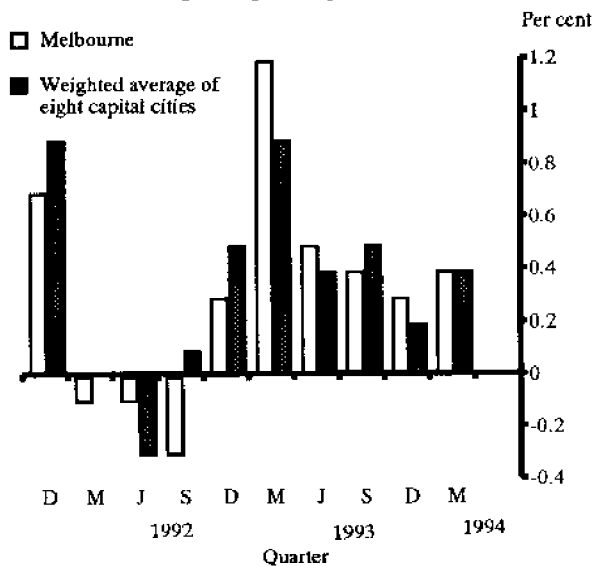
ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, VICTORIA
(Original series)



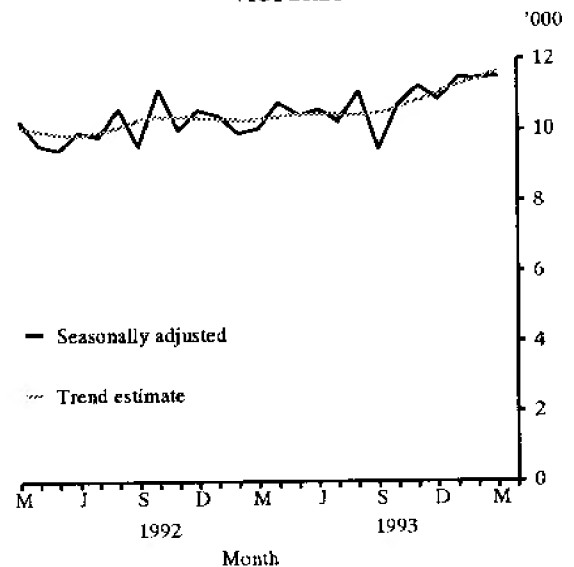
SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS, VICTORIA
(Original series)



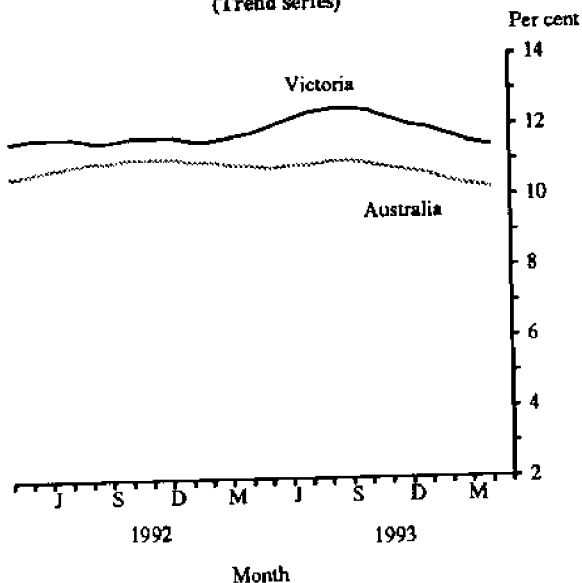
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS
Percentage change from previous quarter



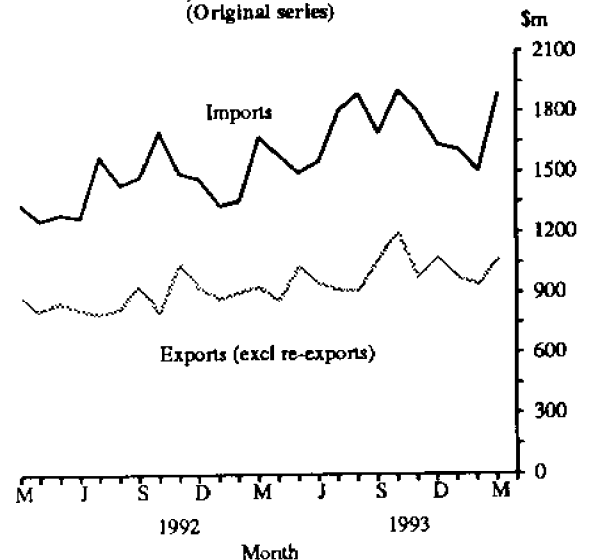
NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED, VICTORIA



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER
(Trend series)



VALUE OF IMPORTS INTO, AND EXPORTS FROM, VICTORIAN PORTS
(Original series)



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Symbols and other usages

n.a.	not available
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
..	not applicable
-	nil or rounded to zero
—	break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn between two consecutive figures in the same column, or alongside two or more figures in consecutive columns).

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

STUART JACKSON

Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

